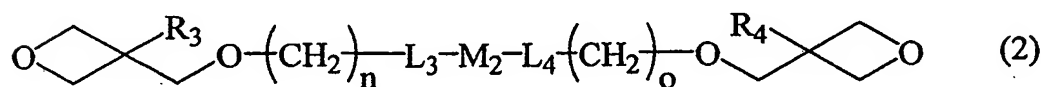
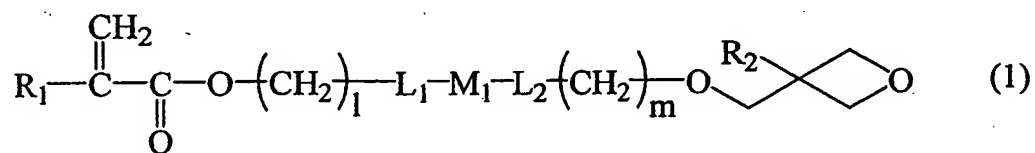


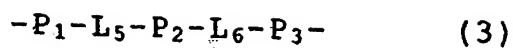
IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 1 as shown in the following listing of claims, which replaces all previous listings and versions of claims:

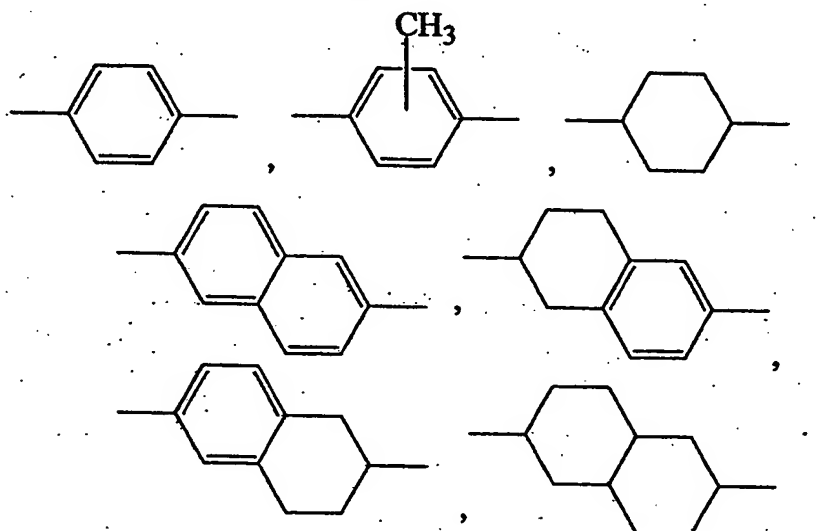
1. (currently amended) A liquid crystal film obtained by fixing an aligned structure of a liquid crystal material containing at least a side chain-type polymeric liquid crystalline substance obtained by copolymerizing ~~homopolymerizing~~ the (meth)acrylic portion of a (meth)acrylic compound having an oxetanyl group represented by formula (1) below ~~or copolymerizing the same~~ with another (meth)acrylic compound and a difunctional low molecular weight liquid crystalline substance having two oxetanyl groups represented by formula (2):



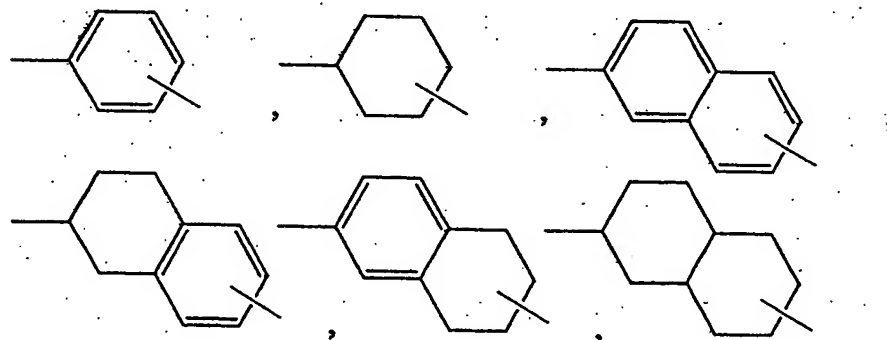
wherein R_1 is hydrogen or methyl; R_2 , R_3 , and R_4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, and ethyl; L_1 , L_2 , L_3 , and L_4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of a single bond, -O-, -O-CO-, and -CO-O-; M_1 and M_2 are each independently represented by a formula selected from the group consisting of formulas (3), (4) and (5) below; and 1, m, n, and o are each independently an integer from 0 to 10:



wherein P_1 and P_2 are each independently a group selected from the group consisting of formulas (6) below; P_3 is a group selected from the group consisting of formulas (7) below; and L_5 and L_6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of a single bond, $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-$, $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{O}-\text{CO}-$ and $-\text{CO}-\text{O}-$:



(6)



(7)

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_2 \\ | \\ \text{R}_1 - \text{C} - \text{C} - \text{O} - (\text{CH}_2)_1 - \text{L}_1 - \text{M}_1 - \text{L}_2 - (\text{CH}_2)_m - \text{O} - \text{R}_2 \text{---} \text{diamond ring} \\ || \\ \text{O} \end{array} \quad (8)$$

3. (original) The liquid crystal film according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the weight-average molecular weight of said side chain-type polymeric crystalline substance is from 2,000 to 100,000.

5. (previously presented) The liquid crystal film according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said liquid crystal material contains a photocation generator and/or a thermal-cation generator.

6. (previously presented) The liquid crystal film according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said film is one obtained by developing said liquid crystal material over an alignment substrate so as to be aligned and fixing the liquid crystal material in the aligned state by irradiation with light and/or a heat treatment.

7. (original) The liquid crystal film according to claim 6 wherein said liquid crystal material is fixed in an aligned structure selected from the group consisting of nematic, nematic hybrid, and smectic orientations.

8. (original) An optical film comprising the liquid crystal film according to claim 1.

9. (original) The optical film according to claim 8 which is a film selected from the group consisting of a $\lambda/2$ film, a $\lambda/4$ film, a color compensation film, a retardation film, and a viewing angle improving film.

10. (original) A liquid crystal display device which is equipped with the optical film according to claim 8 or 9.